

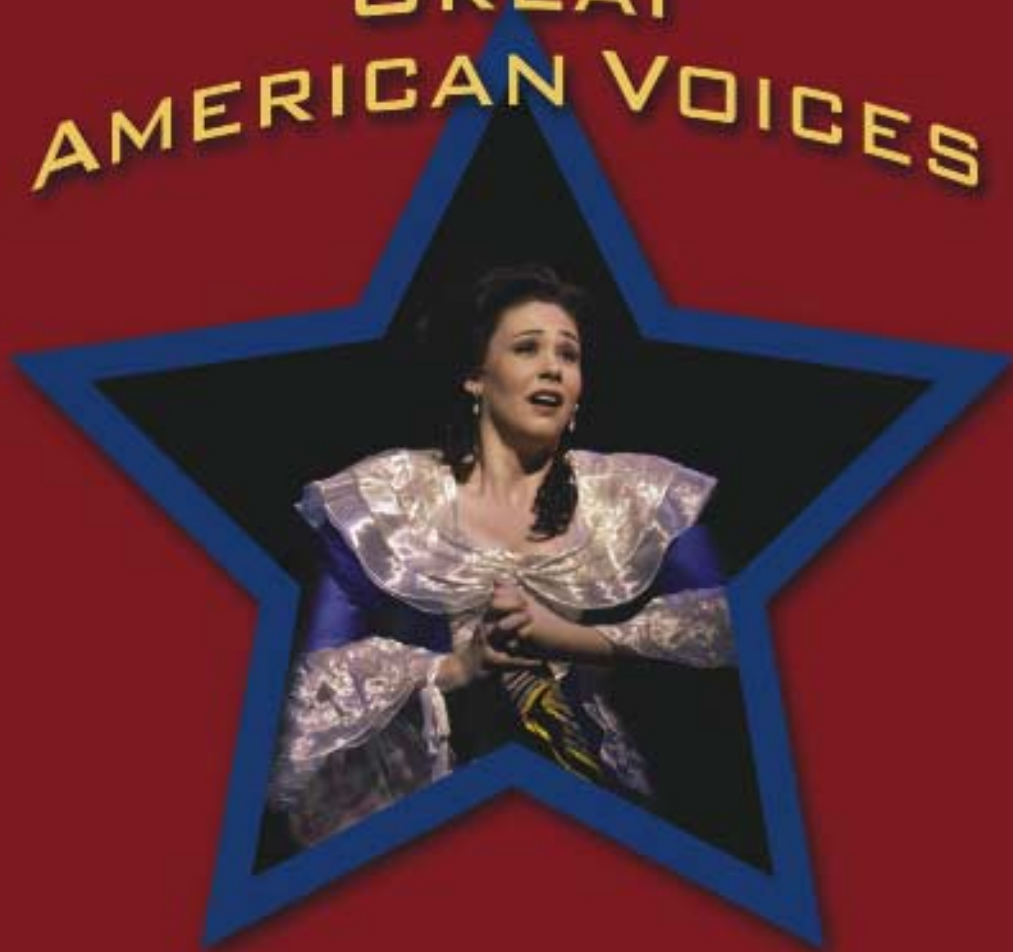


NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE ARTS



PRESENTS

# GREAT AMERICAN VOICES



UNFORGETTABLE MELODIES FROM  
OPERA & BROADWAY

## CAMP LEJEUNE

JULY 4, 2005



The National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) is proud to join more than 10,000 Marines and their families at Camp Lejeune to celebrate Independence Day with a special performance of American opera and musical theater. This performance is a preview of *Great American Voices*, an NEA national initiative that celebrates the best of American arts by bringing admission-free musical performances to military families across the country.

*Great American Voices* is the latest in a series of groundbreaking partnerships between the NEA and the Department of Defense. In April 2004, with the support of The Boeing Company, the NEA launched *Operation Homecoming: Writing the Wartime Experience*, a national initiative that has brought writing workshops with distinguished authors to 20 military bases nationwide, including Camp Lejeune, and abroad. An open call for submissions resulted in more than 1,100 writing samples from troops and their families worldwide. An *Operation Homecoming* anthology will feature the best submissions.

As part of *Operation Homecoming*, the NEA is presenting acclaimed stage and film actor Stephen Lang in the one-man play *Beyond Glory*, which portrays the personal accounts of American servicemen who have been honored for their heroic deeds with the Medal of Honor. Through Summer 2005, *Beyond Glory* will be presented free-of-charge to troops and their families at more than 25 domestic and overseas military installations.

In Fall 2004, the NEA launched the *Shakespeare in American Communities Military Base Tour*, which brought the Alabama Shakespeare Festival and its production of *Macbeth* to 13 U.S. military bases, including Camp Lejeune. *Shakespeare in American Communities* is the largest tour of Shakespeare in American history, having brought new Shakespeare productions and special in-school programs to more than 500 communities, military and civilian, in all 50 states.

Through *Great American Voices* (to launch this Fall), the NEA will expand its outreach to military families through performances of opera and musical theater. *Great American Voices* is presented in coordination with the Department of Defense, the military services, and Opera America. *Great American Voices* is made possible by The Boeing Company.

The NEA offers its sincere thanks to Major General Robert C. Dickerson, Jr., Commanding General, Marine Corps Base, Camp Lejeune for allowing us to be part of the Camp Lejeune July 4<sup>th</sup> celebration. The NEA is grateful to Opera Carolina and the Winston-Salem Symphony for creating a spirited and powerful program and to the singers and musicians showcased in today's performance for being here on this national holiday. Most of all, we extend our appreciation to the men and women who serve their country in the armed services, and to the families that support them.

**Opera Carolina  
Winston-Salem Symphony**

**James Meena**, conductor

**Robin Follman**, soprano

**Tracie Luck**, mezzo soprano

**Scott Ramsay**, tenor

**Staff Sergeant Alvy Powell**, baritone

and members of the  
**Opera Carolina Chorus**

**PROGRAM**

*The National Anthem* by Francis Scott Key

*The Marines' Hymn* by Jacques Offenbach

Overture to *Candide* by Leonard Bernstein

*Art Is Calling to Me* from *The Enchantess* by Victor Herbert  
Robin Follman

Suite from *West Side Story* by Leonard Bernstein

*Maria*

*One Hand, One Heart*

*Somewhere*

*Tonight*

Robin Follman and Scott Ramsay

*Olympic Fanfare & Theme* by John Williams

*America... The Dream Goes On* by John Williams  
Alvy Powell & the Opera Chorus

*The Trees on the Mountains* from *Susannah* by Carlisle Floyd  
Robin Follman

Selections from *Showboat* by Jerome Kern

*Can't Help Lovin' That Man*

*Old Man River*

Tracie Luck & Alvy Powell

Selections from *Porgy and Bess* by George Gershwin  
*Summertime*

*I Got Plenty O' Nuthin'*

*Bess, You Is My Woman Now*

Robin Follman, Tracie Luck, & Alvy Powell

*American Anthem* by Gene Scheer

Scott Ramsay

*Semper Fidelis March* by John Philip Sousa



### **SING ALONG**

*Sing Out America!* arr. by Richard Hayman

*America the Beautiful*

*My Country 'Tis of Thee*

*You're a Grand Old Flag*

*A Yankee Doodle Dandy*

*The Battle Hymn of the Republic*



*God Bless America* by Irving Berlin

Gunnery Sergeant Yolanda Mayo, narrator

Robin Follman, Tracie Luck, Scott Ramsay, Alvy Powell

The Opera Chorus

*The Stars and Stripes Forever* by John Philip Sousa

*The 1812 Overture* by Piotr Ilyitch Tchaikovsky

### **FIREWORKS**

## **SING ALONG TEXT**

### **“America the Beautiful”**

Oh beautiful for spacious skies, for amber waves of grain,  
For purple mountain majesties, above the fruited plain,  
America, America, God shed His grace on thee,  
And crown thy good with brotherhood  
From sea to shining sea.

### **“My Country 'Tis of Thee”**

My country 'tis of thee, sweet land of liberty, of thee I sing.  
Land where my fathers died, land of the pilgrims' pride,  
From every mountainside let freedom ring.

### **“You're A Grand Old Flag”**

You're a grand old flag, you're a high-flying flag,  
And forever in peace may you wave.  
You're the emblem of the land I love,  
The home of the free and the brave.  
Ev'ry heart beats true for the red white and blue  
Where there's never a boast or brag.  
But should old acquaintance be forgot,  
Keep your eye on the Grand Old Flag.

### **“A Yankee Doodle Dandy”**

Oh I'm a Yankee Doodle dandy, a Yankee Doodle, do or die;  
A real live nephew of my Uncle Sam,  
Born on the Fourth of July.  
I've got a Yankee Doodle sweetheart, she's my Yankee Doodle joy.  
Oh Yankee Doodle came to town a riding on a pony,  
I am a Yankee Doodle boy.

### **“The Battle Hymn of the Republic”**

Mine eyes have seen the glory of the coming of the Lord,  
He is trampling out the vintage where the grapes of wrath are stored,  
He has loosed the fateful lightning of His terrible swift sword,  
His truth is marching on.  
Glory, glory Hallelujah. Glory, glory Hallelujah. Glory, glory Hallelujah.  
His truth is marching on.

## **BIOGRAPHIES**



Opera Carolina principal conductor **James Meena** is regarded as one of the finest opera conductors in America today, performing regularly with his home company in Charlotte, North Carolina, and across the globe from Montreal to Seoul, to Florence, Italy.



Considered one of the rising young talents in the operatic world today, internationally acclaimed soprano, **Robin Follman** has appeared extensively in opera, concert, and oratorio in the United States, Europe, and Asia. *Opera News* hailed her as “a singer-actress fully worthy of that dual distinction.”



“Warm, vibrant mezzo” (*Opera News*) mezzo-soprano **Tracie Luck** has proven her artistic and vocal abilities ideal for the title role in *Margaret Garner*, Dorabella in *Così fan tutte*, Melisande in *Pelléas et Mélisande*, Cherubino in *Le nozze di Figaro*, and Orlofsky in *Die Fledermaus*. The *Philadelphia Inquirer* described Luck as having “a rich sound, nimble technique, both of which are abundantly evident ... What’s more Luck has presence and personality.”



Heralded worldwide as the reigning Porgy of our time, baritone **Alvy Powell** has sung on the major stages of the operatic world, including La Scala in Milan, Italy and New York City Opera. A member of the elite Singing Sergeants, Staff Sergeant Powell has performed for heads of state, including three American Presidents, and continues to perform opera worldwide while on active duty.



Tenor **Scott Ramsay** is a rising star with a voice that has been described as “flexible and very attractive,” a voice with “sweetness and the modest purity reminiscent of vintage Bjoerling.” Recently, he received rave reviews at the Lyric Opera of Chicago, stepping into the role of Edgardo for the final performance of *Lucia di Lammermoor*, opposite Natalie Dessay.

The **National Endowment for the Arts** is a public agency dedicated to supporting excellence in the arts, both new and established; bringing the arts to all Americans; and providing leadership in arts education. Established by Congress in 1965 as an independent agency of the federal government, the Endowment is the nation's largest annual funder of the arts, bringing great art to all 50 states, including rural areas, inner cities, and military bases.

**Opera Carolina** is the largest professional opera company in the Carolinas. Located in Charlotte, the company serves more than 75,000 citizens across North and South Carolina each year with an extensive array of opera performances and educational touring programs for schools, regional arts councils, and community centers. The 2005-2006 season features *The Pearl Fishers*, *Amahl & the Night Visitors*, *La Traviata*, and *Cinderella*, as well as the regional premiere of the new American opera *Margaret Garner* by Grammy Award winning composer Richard Danielpour, and Pulitzer and Nobel Prize winning author Toni Morrison.

The **Opera Carolina Chorus**, under the direction of associate conductor Mark Tysinger, is a group of volunteers from every walk of life who come together to share their talents as singers and performers, and bring to life the great works of Verdi, Mozart, Puccini, and other great masters.

The **Winston-Salem Symphony** began in the 1940s with a group of dedicated musicians playing classical music in church programs. Today, the Symphony is recognized as one of the finest regional orchestras in the Carolinas, performing its Classical Series and Saturday Nights, Live! Series at the beautifully restored Stevens Center for the Performing Arts. The Symphony also presents an annual Holiday Concert, the Nutcracker (in partnership with the North Carolina School of the Arts), and numerous education and outreach programs targeted at both adults and children.

**The Boeing Company** is the world's leading aerospace company. It is the largest manufacturer of satellites, commercial jetliners, and military aircraft. The company is also a global market leader in missile defense, human space flight, launch services, aerospace support services, and homeland security services. As a leading contractor to the U.S. Department of Defense, Boeing works together with its DoD customers to provide U.S. Armed Forces and its allies around the world with fully integrated, high-performing systems solutions and support.

**OPERA America** – the nonprofit service organization for opera – leads and serves the entire opera community, supporting the creation, presentation, and enjoyment of opera. Among services created for opera companies and creative and performing artists, OPERA America manages education, audience development, and community services designed to enhance all forms of opera enjoyment.

**A GREAT NATION DESERVES GREAT ART.**

*Great American Voices: Unforgettable Melodies from Opera & Broadway* is presented by the National Endowment for the Arts in cooperation with OPERA America. *Great American Voices* is made possible by The Boeing Company.

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We welcome your comments. Please e-mail [GAVinfo@arts.gov](mailto:GAVinfo@arts.gov).

On the cover: Jennifer Welch Babidge as Constanza in Mozart's *The Abduction from the Seraglio*.

Photo by Cory Weaver, courtesy of Opera Theatre of Saint Louis.

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